

AGENDA ITEM #7
March 9, 2001

To: Delta Protection Commission

From: Lori Clamurro, Delta Protection Commission Staff

Subject: Legislative Subcommittee – Issues for Resolution
(For Commission Action)

According to the Delta Protection Commission Strategic Plan, adopted November 16, 2000, the Commission is interested in forming a Legislative Subcommittee to monitor proposed legislation and budget proposals, to ensure consistency with the Commission's mission and vision. One Commissioner, Bob Gleason, has volunteered to serve on the Legislative Subcommittee.

Issues

Frequency of Subcommittee Meetings and Public Noticing Requirements

Under the Bagley-Keene Act and the Delta Protection Commission Act, any meeting of two or more Commissioners must be publicly noticed at least seven days before the meeting. There are no public noticing requirements if the Subcommittee is comprised of only one two Commissioners.

The Commission's Legislative Subcommittee has not met since 1995. At that time, the Subcommittee would convene before the regularly scheduled Commission meetings; the Commission met every month. The Commission should consider whether it is timely and effective for the Legislative Subcommittee to meet publicly before regularly scheduled Commission meetings, now held every other month, or whether more frequent meetings should be scheduled.

Commission staff is also looking at various options for how to most efficiently hold Subcommittee meetings and discussions. Actions under consideration include e-mail correspondence, an Internet chat room, and telephone conference calls.

Taking a Position on Legislation

In the past, the Legislative Subcommittee would review legislation of potential interest to the Commission, and make recommendations to the Commission on whether the Commission should take a position on specific bills. The Commission may decide that it is appropriate to continue having the Legislative Subcommittee make these recommendations, or the Commission may delegate the authority to take positions on legislation to the Subcommittee directly.